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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT AND INTERFERENCES**

Appl. No. : 09/784,284                      Appeal No. 2006-2017  
Applicant : Ricci et al  
Filed : February 16, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 3738  
Examiner : Javier G Blanco  
Docket No. : 1085.26(B)  
Customer No.: 27353

For: Orthopedic Implants having Ordered Microgeometric Surface Patterns

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**WITHDRAWAL OF APPEAL**

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Appeal of the above-referenced patent application.

Applicants further request express abandonment of this application according to 37 CFR 1.138, in favor of a continuation application filed on May 1, 2007 (see enclosed copy of Utility Patent Application Transmittal of the continuation application).

5/2/2007

Date of Signature

By: 

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**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that on the date shown below, this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, at Fax No. (571) 273-8300.

YI LI

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate

Signature 

Date 5/2/2007